

Tyra Nevers

Goal 1.3 Introduction to Ecology and Evolution, Potential Impacts of Crayfish on Native Amphibians

Throughout my time at Longwood I took several courses that pertained to the micro-level of biology. For this particular assignment we were tasked with forming an experiment to perform in microbiology and then write a research paper about it. For this project, my colleague and I completed a presentation on Crayfish. This project took many weeks and we studied how the crayfish would eat the tadpole and whether the size of the crayfish played a big role. Invasive species are one of the major threats to biological diversity. We raised the question if there will be no difference in the survival rates of the tadpoles when living with the invasive and native crayfish species. Some future experiments that could be done could be increasing the tadpole count and amount of observations. The Red-swamp crayfish ate at a faster rate than Piedmont crayfish. There was a significant difference between survival rates of tadpoles between the native and invasive crayfish. The Invasive crayfish had a significant impact compared to the native crayfish. I loved this project so much and I loved my group energy.